

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. – 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) ~~A~~ The method of removing dust from a vent of the type forming an angle with a vent opening and having a vent diameter, the method comprising ~~in combination the steps of:~~

providing an external brush coupled to a flexible shaft, the flexible shaft being, in turn, disposed within a flexible vacuum conduit having a diameter substantially less than said vent diameter for allowing said flexible conduit to be passed through said angle in said vent;

inserting said external brush into said vent opening, thereby substantially occluding said vent;

passing said flexible conduit inward along said vent through said angle;

rotating said flexible shaft to cause said brush to rotate in said vent and dislodge said dust;

applying a vacuum source to said flexible vacuum conduit to draw an air stream containing said dust from said vent into said conduit;

providing a swivel cuff between said vacuum source and an exhaust end of said flexible vacuum conduit so as to minimize torque loads of said flexible shaft; and

removing said brush from said vent.

11. (Currently amended) A method according to Claim 10, wherein the steps of rotating said flexible ~~rotatable~~ shaft, applying said vacuum source, and removing said brush are performed simultaneously.

12. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 10 further comprising:

filtering said air stream produced by applying said vacuum source to said vacuum conduit to remove dust.

13. (Canceled)